



Fairfax County Public Library  
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[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)



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# LOUD & CLEAR

## Summer 2016

## Volume 28 Issue 2

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## Fairfax County Public Library –Public Engagement Initiative

The Fairfax County Public Library's Board of Trustees is currently conducting an Engagement Initiative that offers an important opportunity for everyone who lives in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax to contribute

their views and opinions on what they want their public library to do and to be in the future, both short and long term. Civic Technologies, the company that is conducting the Initiative, has created an email box where anyone can send their thoughts and concerns as FCPL looks to the future. We are fast approaching the endpoint of this opportunity but encourage your prompt participation. The address for the email box is: [fairfax@librarystrategy.com](mailto:fairfax@librarystrategy.com). Thank you for your participation!

## **Jessica Allyson Hudson Appointed Library Director**

At their meeting on Wednesday, April 20 the Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees appointed Jessica A. Hudson as the next director of the Fairfax County Public Library. Hudson succeeds Edwin "Sam" Clay III who retired March 22.

Ms. Hudson has served in increasingly responsible positions in the California library systems. She is currently the county librarian for the Contra Costa County Library in Pleasant Hill, California where she oversees 26 public libraries. Ms. Hudson has a master's degree in library science from San Jose State University and a bachelor's of business administration from California State University, Sacramento.

## **Summer Reading Challenge - "Read for the Win"**

The 2016 Summer Reading Challenge at the Fairfax County Public Library, "Read for the Win", begins June 23 and continues through September 3. Participants keep a log of the books they read; preschoolers through third graders read 15 books, fourth through sixth graders read 10 books, and students in grades 7-12 read 6 books. Children can have books read to them. Turn in completed logs to your library branch any time before September 3 to receive a coupon booklet full of free and discounted prizes.

Note: Book suggestions for first through sixth grades can be found at: [FCPL Book suggestions Elementary grades](#) .

There are also many activities planned for families, preschoolers, school-age youngsters, teens and adults throughout the summer. Search our calendar of events or pick up a printed copy of the summer calendar at your local library branch. New programs include Milkshake Music, Look Up to the Stars with astronomer Kevin Manning, Rhythmaya Indian Music and Dance, Shazan Magic Show and more. All events are free, but often fill up quickly; registration is required. Please sign up online or at a branch beginning two weeks before an event.

## **Capital Area Rail Blazers (CARB) –Blind Bowlers**

Beginning in September, you are invited to join a bowling league made up of sighted, partially blind and totally blind bowlers. The league meets on Monday evenings at the AMF Annandale Lanes, 4245 Markhan St., Annandale VA 22003. The season lasts 25 weeks and costs \$12.00 a night. Teams are co-ed and consist of three people. There is a need for weekly and substitute bowlers. For complete information please contact either Richard Benham, 703-451-5372, email [go4br2dj@gmail.com](mailto:go4br2dj@gmail.com) or Marie Brinas, 571-419-7737, email [marie@brinas.co](mailto:marie@brinas.co).

## **Friends Helping Friends**

The Friends of Access Services is a group of customers and other interested parties who serve as an advisory panel for Access Services (AS). Members exchange practical and helpful information and believe that this information may also benefit other AS customers and/or *Loud and Clear* readers. In this continuing column, 'Friends Helping Friends', the Friends share helpful tips and experiences from the viewpoint of a user.

In this issue of Loud & Clear the Friends share their thoughts on losing a colleague and a friend, Kathy Wilson. Kathy died on April 9, 2016. She was 85 years young.

Kathy was very committed to her work with the Golden Gazette and her community. She was a dedicated member of our Friends group and contributed greatly to every conversation. She loved being active and taking part in what was going on around her. Most importantly, Kathy was a very kind, cheerful and loving person, who was always a joy to be around.  
-Kathleen Tozer

Kathy was a long-term member of the Friends of Access Services and very dedicated to the group, even though she was not herself a client of Access Services. I have been told by several of her colleagues at the Department of Aging, that when she returned from a meeting of the Friends of Access Services, that she would go on and on talking about us. She was very dedicated to the group, and even after retiring and moving about 45 minutes away, she still was adamant about attending all of the meetings and signing up for committee meetings also. In the past couple years, I had a lot of contact with her by telephone and she became a friend and a wonderful morale booster and sounding board. She will be greatly missed as a friend and wonderful resource for our group. -Cheryl Piper

I met Kathy through the Friends of Access Services. We served on several subcommittees together and I was impressed with her knowledge of all the disability services available in Fairfax County and who to contact for what. She was a wealth of information and a valuable resource and friend to those of us with vision loss. She will be sorely missed. -Janet Horwitz

I met Kathy several years ago when I first joined the Friends of Access Services. Since we only meet once a quarter it is hard to get to know each other very well. However, over time I began to appreciate Kathy's wit and quirky sense of humor. Her valuable input and wealth of knowledge and input during meetings will greatly be missed. I recently

found out that we have a couple of things in common. We both attended Trinity College, although decades apart and we both enjoyed Manhattan cocktails. From now on whenever I have a Manhattan, I'll give a silent toast to Kathy and her remarkable life. -Marie Brinas

The Friends of Access Services always welcomes new members. Its next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, July 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Government Center, Suite 123. For more information contact Access Services at 703-324-8380.

## Upcoming Holidays

Independence Day	Monday, July 4, 2016
Labor Day	Monday, September 5, 2016
Columbus Day	Monday, October 10, 2016

## Reading Roundup

In honor of FCPL's Summer Reading Challenge, the Access Services staff recommends these favorite childhood and young adult stories. Reread and enjoy or discover them for the first time. The AS staff is always ready to see if a favorite title has been recorded. Call us at 703-324-8380.

### **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen. **DB 30535**

Brian, thirteen and troubled by his parent's divorce, is flying in a single-engine plane to visit his father. As Brian is the only passenger, the pilot casually shows him how to fly the plane. When the pilot has a heart attack and dies, Brian must take control. After the plane crashes in the Canadian wilderness, Brian has only the hatchet attached to his belt to help him survive. For grades 6-9 and older readers.

### **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** by Mark Twain **DB 53084**

The escapades and high jinks of schoolboy Tom Sawyer, who lives with his Aunt Polly in a small Missouri town on the Mississippi River. Tom

angles for the affections of Becky Thatcher, runs away with Huck Finn and Joe Harper, and tells the truth when it matters. For grades 6-9 and older readers. 1876.

**Otto of the Silver Hand** by Howard Pyle **DB 30143**

The gentle son of a medieval German robber baron, raised in the thoughtful quiet of a monastery, returns to his father's castle and, despite great suffering and blood-feuds, grows to honor and manhood. For junior and senior high and older readers.

**Bad Beginning: A Series of Unfortunate Events (Book 1)** by Lemony Snicket **DB 50907**

The Baudelaire siblings-Violet, fourteen; Klaus, twelve; and Sunny, a teething toddler-are charming and clever, but "magnets for misfortune." In short order, they are orphaned, denied access to their inheritance until Violet comes of age, and sent to live with a repulsive relative, Count Olaf. For grades 4-7

**Johnny Tremain** by Esther Forbes **DB 22808**

After a burn severely cripples his right hand, Tremain becomes a courier for the committee of public safety and a hero in the early days of the American Revolution. The excitement he experiences includes the Boston Tea Party and the Battle of Lexington. For grades 4-7. Newbery award.

**Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson **DB 52436**

Young Jim Hawkins finds a map in a dead seaman's possessions. His friends, Squire Trelawney and Doctor Livesey, realize it's a treasure map. They hire a ship, unaware that the crew includes the pirate Long John Silver. For grades 6-9 and older readers.

**Ben and Me** by Robert Lawson **DB 47613**

In 1745 Amos, a church mouse, leaves his home to find a better place to live. He ends up with Benjamin Franklin and becomes his confidant and traveling companion. When Franklin dies, many writers extol

his achievements, but Amos decides to set the record straight with his own accounts. For grades 5-8.

**The Golden Compass** by Phillip Pullman **DB 44343**

A tale set in Victorian England on an alternate Earth. Young Lyra Belacqua and her daemon enjoy an idyllic life among the scholars at Jordan College. Then her friend, Roger, and other children are abducted by the Gobblers. Venturing north in pursuit, Lyra encounters an alien and sinister world. Violence. For junior and senior high readers.

**Bartholomew and the Oobleck** by Dr. Seuss **DB 34054**

Angry about the same four things always falling from the sky-rain, sunshine, snow, and fog-the king of the kingdom of Didd orders his royal magicians to create something new to fall from the sky. Easy reading for grades 2-4.

**Where the Red Fern Grows** by Wilson Rawls **DB 32449**

Ten-year-old Billy, a country boy in the Ozarks, wants a pair of coonhounds so badly that he works hard for two years to pay for them. For grades 5-8 and older readers. 1961.

**Hardy Boys: Mystery of the Whale Tattoo, The Arctic Patrol Mystery, The Bombay Boomerang** by Franklin W. Dixon **DB 75301**

Three books in the detective series. In the BOMBAY BOOMERANG Joe mistakenly dials the Pentagon and hears two words that plunge the Hardy Boys in the middle of a dangerous, diabolical scheme. For grades 3-6 and older readers. 1968.

## **Community Forums: a More Accessible and Inclusive Community**

The Fairfax Area Disability Services Board is hosting a series of forums throughout the Fairfax area to hear personal stories about the

barriers to inclusion which people with disabilities face. They are especially interested in learning about your experiences in the following focus areas;

- Housing, employment, transportation, emergency preparedness, and home and community based supports to live independently;
- Program and physical accessibility barriers to goods and services offered to the public; and
- Unmet needs and service gaps.

Editor's Note: Some scheduled meetings had taken place before our publication. If you have questions or want to register or request a reasonable accommodation for these forums please email [disabilityservices@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:disabilityservices@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-324-5874, TTY 703-449-1186.

**Wednesday, June 15, 2016**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Mott Community Center, 12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

**Tuesday, June 28, 2016**, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

**Wednesday, June 29, 2016**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield, VA 22150

Once the community forums are completed, the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board will use the information gathered to develop an action plan to address the recommendations, barriers, and service gaps in our community.

## Golden Gazette

The Golden Gazette is a FREE monthly newspaper covering 'news to use' for older adults in the Fairfax area. Each month it features articles on



older adult wellness, recreation, volunteering, legal issues, Medicare, financial issues, caregiving and consumer issues. It also covers important county news on issues such as public safety, services, taxation, recycling, and voting.

Click here to [subscribe now to receive the Golden Gazette by email](#).

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(Be sure to indicate under VERSION whether you want the regular or large print) or call 703-324-5633, TTY 711 and leave your full name, address, and phone number on the recording.

## Staff News

**Jerry Herrera, Rob Harsher, Yadira Fernandez and Ken Plummer** have been 'out and about' at several community fairs and outreach events. These fairs are often based on a central theme such as 'wellness' or 'creative aging' and are designed so many resources for the aging population can be brought together in one place. The Access Services staff educates many people about library services generally, like e-books and e-audiobooks, and specifically about the Home Delivery Service and the Talking Book Program. We are grateful for these opportunities and enjoy spreading the word about Access Services. Plus, it is always a treat to meet some of you who we have only 'met over the phone'.

## Friends Helping Friends Part 2

The Friends of Access Services is a group of customers and other interested parties who serve as an advisory panel for Access Services. Members exchange practical and helpful information and believe that this information may also benefit other AS customers and/or *Loud and Clear* readers. In this continuing column, 'Friends Helping Friends', the Friends share helpful tips and experiences from the viewpoint of a user.

Marie Brinas is a member of the Friends of Access Services and is quite involved with The American Council of the Blind (ACB). In fact, she is

the President of both her local chapter, the NOVA Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired and the Virginia state Chapter, The Old Dominion Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired (ODCBVI). She shares some information about these resources.

The American Council of the Blind strives to increase the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and quality of life, for all blind and visually-impaired people.

On the local level, NOVA Council holds chapter meetings on the first Thursday of most months. NOVA also hosts various social activities or events throughout the year. To find out more about meetings, activities or events please consider signing up for NOVA's email list serve by sending a blank email to: [nova-acb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nova-acb-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). You will receive a confirmation email that you will then only need to reply to with another blank email.

On the state level, ODCBVI, is inviting you to a series of teleconference calls on topics near and dear to our community. The third Wednesday of each month, there will be a presentation with time for questions and input. The calls will last between 30 and 60 minutes. The conference is free but the phone call will be like a regular long distance call for you. To phone in, please call 1-218-486-2998 and when asked for an access code, enter 478569#.

Here's the conference schedule for the next several months:

June 15 - Accessible (audible) Pedestrian Signals. How do you get an audible signal at an intersection near your house or work? ODCBVI members share how they have successfully requested signals.

July 20 - How to open a case with college Disability Services Offices (DSOs). Students entering higher education are accustomed to getting their equipment and accessible materials from their teachers. This presentation will tell students and parents what is expected of them, and what they should expect from their DSO to make their higher education successful.

August 17 - What's changed with the new WIOA regulations? A new federal law governing the rehabilitation system has passed, and the regulations to implement the law will be out this summer. This presentation will highlight the very important changes that will effect current and future Virginians looking for rehabilitation services whether they want to be employed or not.

September 21 - ODCBVI Convention Preview. Every year, ODCBVI members and friends gather from around the state for programs, companionship, and the business of the organization. This call will focus on what you can expect if you attend.

To keep apprised of upcoming events, activities and calls please consider signing up for ODCBVI's email list serve by sending a blank email to:

[odcbvi-subscribe@yahooogroups.com](mailto:odcbvi-subscribe@yahooogroups.com)

You will then receive a confirmation email that you will only have to reply to with another blank email.

For more information about ACB, please feel free to contact me, Marie Brinas, 703-672-1787, or via email at [marie@brinas.co](mailto:marie@brinas.co).

## Web Corner: Four to (thoroughly) Explore

**Fairfax County Office of Elections.** The National election will take place this November. For all information on voting in Fairfax County see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections>. For particular information about absentee voting see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>.

**Outdoor Summer Concerts in Fairfax County.** Who doesn't enjoy beautiful music on a summer evening? The Fairfax County Park Authority, in partnership with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and with generous contributions from local businesses and corporations through the

Park Foundation, presents a summer-long calendar of shows and concerts. They are close to home, can feature big band, jazz, bluegrass, rock, classical or world music and are absolutely free.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/>.

**Fairfax County Public Library.** Where do I find a list of the next books I might want to read? Where do I find a Website with everything about books; reviews, good book club books, award winners, etc.? [FCPL Web sites for readers](#)

**Fairfax County Services for Older Adults.** Listed again by popular demand. This site has information about all the services that are available to Older Adults in Fairfax County. Visit it often and bookmark it now! [Fairfax County Older Adult Services](#).

## AS and NLS Reminders

The BARD catalog is your access point to all of the books and magazines that have been recorded. You have access 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You need a high speed computer connection, an email address, and a blank cartridge or storage device which is called a 'flash' or 'thumb' drive to use this database. Call us today at 703-324-8380 for more information.

People can also access the BARD database and download books right to your personal mobile devices (telephones and tablets). You can have your books right at your fingertips!

If you know of other people who love to read but have difficulty pursuing this interest due to problems with mobility, vision or frailty please tell them about Access Services. You are our best ambassadors! Here is our general telephone number, 703-324-8380.

If you visit <http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/index.html> and click on 'Reference Guides' there are compilations of current information on many topics of interest to NLS readers, those who provide services to them, and other interested parties. These are frequently updated to reflect the most recent information on a topic.

## Contact Us

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions concerning the *Loud & Clear* newsletter, please call Ken Plummer at 703-324-8389. You may also e-mail him at [access@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:access@fairfaxcounty.gov). Have a great summer!